

HEMINGFORD GREY PARISH COUNCIL

**Meeting of Hemingford Grey Parish Council held on Monday 8 June 2020 at 7.30 pm
Held remotely via Zoom due to the current pandemic**

Present: Cllrs: Richard Allen (Chairman) Janice Flint
Doug Dew Anne Meredith
Riva Elliott Robin Waters
Sarah Jakes

In attendance: 1 member of the public, District Cllr D Keane, County Cllr Ian Bates and Mr Ben Stoehr (Minutes Secretary, LGS Services)

Comments and observations from members of the public and from the County and District Councillors

Cllr Dew as District Councillor reported that most plans for the last Council year had been disrupted by Covid-19. However, Huntingdonshire District Council (HDC) had done well; bin services and parks had been relatively unaffected. The County Council had cut back on grass cutting services which were covered by HDC. HDC had taken a central role in the Covid-19 response, with considerable funding made to local businesses. Staff had been moving between services such as gyms to bin services. However, income was severely down, including car parks and leisure, and a £2m shortfall was expected from the normal £20m spend.

District Cllr David Keane reported that HDC had given the option for residents to defer Council Tax for two months. They had dealt with rough sleepers quickly and had been involved with co-ordinating prescriptions and food parcels. They had recently become involved in Track and Trace to provide support for those isolating as a result of the pandemic. There was a daily meeting about Covid where this was noted and concerns were raised about the hotspot. A hasty press release with inadequate information was put out but this would not happen again, as although it was intended to help, it had caused confusion and upset. Cllr Keane outlined how Test and Trace works.

County Cllr Ian Bates thanked everyone for their ongoing efforts, especially Hemingford Hub. He reported on the number of residents shielding in the County. The Bluntisham recycling facility was now open with a one way system for access and egress, on a one in one out basis. A trailer licence scheme was about to be re-introduced with a similar operation to the St Neots area. Many Highways and Transport staff had been reassigned to Covid-19 support but were starting to trickle back to their normal roles. CCC's committee structure had been reviewed. Cllr Bates was to become Chair of the Highways and Transport Committee. There is also a new Environment Committee. Schools have all been carrying out risk assessments for their return, working closely with Peterborough Council. All the arrangements were costing a great deal of money but were necessary. There had been issues about grass cutting between HDC and CCC but these should all now be resolved. A report will be going to the first meeting of the Highways and Transport Committee at CCC.

1. Apologies for absence and to consider a request for an approval for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Sheridan (unwell).

2. Declarations of interests

None.

3. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 11 May 2020

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting on 11 May 2020 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record. The Chairman is to forward a signed copy to the Clerk. (Prop RA, 2nd RW, unanimous)

Cllr Elliott arrived at 7.47 pm.

4. To consider planning applications, decision notices and tree works applications or pre-application approaches received

4.1 Planning applications

4.1.1 20/00546/HHFUL – 24 Norman Court – Single storey flat roof extension

RESOLVED to support this application as it is of small scale and in keeping with the street scene. (Prop AM, 2nd RW, unanimous)

4.1.2 20/80126/COND – Agricultural buildings, Long Lane Farm, Long Lane – Conditional information for 19/01917/FUL C4 (Hard and soft landscaping) and C6 (Ecology)

RESOLVED to support this application as regards the area within the red line on the plan, but questions what is happening about the area outside the box as regards trees and the access path. (Prop RW, 2nd AM, unanimous)

4.1.3 20/00546/HHFUL – 24 Norman Court

Duplicated item.

4.2 Decision notices, appeals notices, enforcement notices and planning correspondence

4.2.1 20/00414/HHFUL – 11A Gore Tree Road – Replacement garage – Permission granted

4.3.2 20/00234/HHFUL – 16 Langley Way – Demolition of existing garage and erection of new attached garage (retrospective) – Permission granted

4.3.3 20/80126/COND – Agricultural buildings, Long Lane Farm, Long Lane – Conditional information for 19/01917/FUL C4 (Hard and soft landscaping) and C6 (Ecology) – Noted.

4.3 Tree Works applications

None.

5. To consider matters arising from the last or a previous meeting for info only unless detailed

5.1 (5.6) CCC LHI bid 2021/2022 – to consider report and any proposals for a bid

RESOLVED, noting that Hemingford Abbots had submitted a successful bid for a 20 mph zone in the centre of the village, that Cllrs Dew, Elliott and Meredith should draft a proposal for a similar scheme for a 20 mph zone possibly including the area around the School, and bring this to the next meeting for further consideration. (Prop RA, 2nd SJ, unanimous)

5.2 (6.5) RoSPA reports – to consider quotations received

RESOLVED to accept the quotations from Playground Supplies for £995.00 plus VAT and from Algar Signcraft for £240.00 plus VAT. (Prop RW, 2nd DD, unanimous)

5.3 (7.6) Communities Capital Fund – to consider report and any recommendations

RESOLVED to defer this item to the next meeting.

5.4 Resident request for dropped kerb in Church Street – to consider response from CCC

RESOLVED, having noted the response from CCC that they are not in a position to fund the works, and the Parish Council is already pursuing a different scheme under the LHI, given this was not a road safety issue, to decline the request. (Prop RW, 2nd DD, unanimous)

5.5 (8.1) Resident – Pocket Park at the end of the Thorpe – to consider a recommendation from the EWG

RESOLVED, having spoken to the landowners, to respond to the resident that the landowners do not wish to proceed.

6. Finance, procedure and risk assessment

6.1 To receive the financial report and approve the payment of bills

RESOLVED to receive the financial report and that the invoices and bank statements be checked before the payments are approved.

RESOLVED that the payments as listed in the finance report should be paid, plus Victoire Press (Newsletter printing) £422.00, Norfolk Association of Local Councils (Neighbourhood Plan training) £54.00, Royal Mail (Neighbourhood Plan Freepost) £1.69, and that the payments should be authorised online. ^(Prop RA, 2nd AM, unanimous)

Salaries

ICO (DPA) (DD)	£35.00
LGS Services (Admin support)	£2215.30
K & M Streetlights (MVAS repositioning)	£60.00
K & M Streetlights (Streetlight maintenance)	£87.88

Credits, including bank interest, allotment rents and cemetery fees, were noted.

6.2 Clerk report on any action taken using delegated powers or because of health and safety

The Clerk used emergency powers for

- Approval for interment in Old 490a.
- Due to Covid-19 relaxing the requirement for witnessing allotment tenancy agreements.

6.3 To consider any matter which is urgent because of risk or health and safety

None.

7. **To receive reports and items from Committees, working groups and members for information only unless specified**

7.1 Proposal that the Parish Council considers the Purple Ribbon Project initiative for food bank collection

The Hemingford Hub had been considering working with food banks, with the possible involvement of the Parish Council in facilitating posters and possibly co-ordinating collections and drop offs. RESOLVED, following the Hub Co-ordinator 's enquiries with local food banks, to defer this item to the July meeting, and that Cllrs Meredith and Jakes should check with the food banks and the School to see how many Hemingford Grey residents use the service.

7.2 Proposal that an allotment holder may keep a neighbouring allotment tidy

RESOLVED that the Parish Council is keen to support collaboration between tenants.

7.3 Proposal that a notice board be provided for the allotments

RESOLVED to obtain quotations for a notice board, with a single window similar to previous boards. ^(Prop SJ, 2nd RW, unanimous)

7.4 Proposal that the grass cutting schedule is changed and that the schedule and the Council recognizes the designation of the Community Orchard and conservation area

The proposal was withdrawn.

RESOLVED that Cllr Waters should speak to the contractors about not cutting certain areas before further consideration.

7.5 Speed sign data report and proposal that the speed sign on Hemingford Road is turned round

RESOLVED to note that the sign had already been turned. Payment of K&M Lighting's invoice was already on the finance report item 6.1. ^(Prop RW, 2nd SJ, unanimous)

7.6 Proposal that combined community Litter Pick and Tree Planting be split and rescheduled as two separate events, the cancelled litter pick rescheduled for Saturday 19 September, with tree planting rescheduled for 28 November to coincide with National Tree Planting week. A further community event, bulb planting, to be scheduled for Saturday October 17th

RESOLVED to approve the proposal. ^(Prop JF, 2nd RE, unanimous)

7.7 Proposal that the Council returns £1866.59 to Groundworks UK

RESOLVED that the residual unspent amount of grant money for the Neighbourhood Plan be returned to Groundworks UK, subject to confirmation of the figures by the RFO. (Prop RA, 2nd RW, unanimous)

7.8 Proposal that Fergusons are asked to clear cemetery compost bin and remove half of the spoil

RESOLVED to ask Fergusons to carry out the clearance work. (Prop RA, 2nd RW, unanimous)

7.9 EWG report and recommendations (not detailed elsewhere on this agenda)

7.9.1 Recommendation that a Road Safety Group (name to be discussed) be convened to deal with highways, traffic, pedestrian and cycling issues within the parish

RESOLVED that the Webmaster, who as present, should place a notice on the website regarding residents joining a Highways Working Group.

The Chairman expressed thanks to Kim Loader for his efforts in keeping the website updated during the Covid-19 crisis.

7.9.2 Recommendation that a review of village maintenance be undertaken by a sub group of RW, CB, MS and SJ to report by September covering current contracts and responsibilities; impending changes; and possible Parish Council initiatives. This will propose an overall policy and make recommendations as to how the policy can be implemented taking into account contractual, financial, and longer term environmental issues

RESOLVED that a working group be formed consisting of Cllrs Waters and Jakes, together with a resident, C Bowden, noting that Cllr Sheridan was unable to commit to joining this group.

7.9.3 Recommendation that plans for an avenue of trees across Daintree Green be advertised in the July newsletter to gauge residents' reaction

The proposal was withdrawn for the time being, as it was being reviewed.

7.9.4 Recommendation that the Clerk order removal of the tree branch on Daintree Green if recommended by the Tree Survey (warden has seen)

RESOLVED that if required, the work should be put in hand (Prop RW, 2nd DD unanimous)

7.9.5 Recommendation that further to 7.6 the Parish Council confirms that expenses for refreshments have been agreed

RESOLVED to note that the expenses for refreshments had previously been agreed.

7.10 Proposal that the Parish Council consider a recommendation from K&M Lighting for the street light 198 in Priors Road as UKPN is not replacing like for like connection on the new pole

RESOLVED to accept the quotation of £575 plus VAT from K&M Lighting to fit a galvanised pole and fit existing pole bracket for street light 198. A contract is also to be put in place with UKPN assuming the cost is similar to previous quotes (Prop RW, 2nd DD, unanimous)

8. To consider correspondence/communications received

8.1 The Cock – suggestion of a “Hemingford Grey Day” on Daintree Green

RESOLVED that the Parish Council is in favour of the proposal in principle, subject to the lease, insurance cover by the organiser and written risk assessment. RESOLVED, given the current restrictions and the absence of facilities at Daintree Green, that the Chairman should discuss the issues to be resolved with The Cock and report to a future meeting when this would be considered further. (Prop RW, 2nd AM, unanimous)

9. Closure of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.16 pm.

Signed _____ (Chairman) _____(Date)

APPROVED